

REMARKS

Claims 1-13 are pending in this application after this amendment. Claims 1, 6, and 12 are independent. New claims 8-13 are presented for consideration by the Examiner. No new matter has been added by the addition of these new claims. Based on the remarks made herein, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections.

In the outstanding Official Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-7 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Umeyama (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0057473). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102

In support of the Examiner's rejection of claim 1, the Examiner asserts that Umeyama discloses all of the claim elements, including an image playback unit for continuously displaying on said display unit the plurality of said original image data stored in said first image data storage unit, citing to Fig. 3, steps S1 (No). The Examiner asserts in the Official Action on page 3 as follows:

Following the left side, images are continuously captured and stored in temporary memory 207 until at step S6 the mode is switched to reproduction mode, in which case the apparatus will display the captured images from 207, the first storage unit.

Applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner's characterization of this reference.

The disclosure of Umeyama is directed to an electronic camera that includes a continuous AF mode. Paragraph [0068] discloses that the features discussed in the disclosure may be implemented in "a cellular phone or the like mounted with a CCD camera." Fig. 3 depicts a flow diagram of the photographing operation. While the camera is in the photographing mode, a decision is made whether the half-way press switch 231 has been turned on. If not, the subject image is captured by the image capturing element, image pre-processing is performed and the image is temporarily stored in buffer memory 207. The image data is read out of buffer memory 207, and a display image is created and displayed, see [0046]-[0047]. However, these steps are

performed when the half-press switch is NOT pressed. In other words, these steps are not performed as the camera is performing a continuous photographing operation as the half-way press switch has not been turned on.

Umeyama further discloses in Fig. 3 that if the half-way switch has been turned on (right side of flow diagram), the focal adjustment processing is performed by engaging the AF device 217, the photometering device performs photometering and then a decision is made as to whether or not the full-press switch is pressed. If the full-press switch is pressed, the images are captured, thumbnails prepared, and the image is compressed and recorded. If the full-press switch is not pressed, then processing proceeds to step S6, see [0048].

In contrast, the invention set forth in claim 1 recites, *inter alia*, mobile phone equipment comprising a first image data storage unit for temporarily storing a plurality of original image data obtained with a continuous photographing function of said photographing unit and an image data playback unit for continuously displaying on said display unit the plurality of said original image data stored in said first image data storage unit.

Applicants respectfully submit that Umeyama fails to teach or suggest continuously displaying the original image data stored in the first image data storage unit. At most, Umeyama, in Fig. 3, discloses displaying image data that has been recorded in a second storage unit. Further, there is no disclosure that the image data is continuously displayed, all as required by claim 1.

As Umeyama fails to teach or suggest all of the elements recited in claim 1, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 1 is not anticipated by Umeyama. It is respectfully requested that the outstanding rejection be withdrawn.

It is respectfully submitted that claims 2-5 and 8-10 are allowable for the reasons set forth above with regard to claim 1 at least based on their dependency on claim 1.

The invention of claim 6 recites, *inter alia*, mobile phone equipment including a display unit for displaying an overview of a plurality of thumbnail image data generated from a plurality of original image data obtained by said photographing unit through a continuous photographic function; and an image data storage unit for storing said original image data and said thumbnail image data in an identical folder.

In support of the Examiner's rejection of claim 6, the Examiner asserts that Umeyama discloses as follows:

Umeyama teaches... an image data storage unit for storing said original image data and said thumbnail image data in an identical folder (as addressed with Claim 3); and an image data playback unit for reading said original image data from said folder and continuously displaying on said display unit (as addressed with Claim 1).

However, Applicants respectfully disagree that Umeyama discloses the image data playback unit for reading said original image data from said folder and continuously displaying on said display unit, as noted above with regard to claim 1.

It is respectfully submitted that claims 7 and 11 are allowable for the reasons set forth above with regard to claim 6 at least based on their dependency on claim 6.

By this amendment, Applicants have added new claim 12. Claim 12 recites, *inter alia*, a method for capturing and managing image data captured during a continuous photographing operation comprising temporarily storing the plurality of original image data and the plurality of thumbnail image data in a first storage unit; continuously displaying the plurality of thumbnail image data on a display until input from a user is received; permanently storing the plurality of original image data and the plurality of thumbnail image data together in a folder in a second storage unit when input is received to permanently store the plurality of original image data and the plurality of thumbnail image data; and deleting the plurality of original image data and the plurality of thumbnail image data when input is received to delete the plurality of original image data and the plurality of thumbnail image data.

Applicants respectfully submit that Umeyama fails to teach or suggest these claim elements.

Conclusion

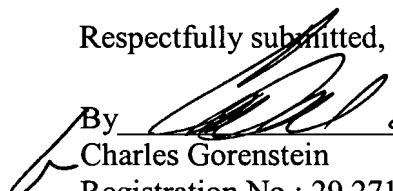
In view of the above remarks, it is believed that claims are allowable.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Catherine M. Voisin Reg. No. 52,327 at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37.C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.14; particularly, extension of time fees.

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